

What is claimed:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A self hardening, non-aqueous composition of matter in combination:

a non-toxic non-aqueous water-miscible liquid;

a gelling agent;

a powdered calcium compound in the form of powder particles and selected from the group consisting of monocalcium phosphate monohydrate, monocalcium phosphate anhydrous, dicalcium phosphate anhydrous, dicalcium phosphate dehydrate, octacalcium phosphate, α -tricalcium phosphate, β -tricalcium phosphate, amorphous calcium phosphate, calcium deficient hydroxyapatite, non-stoichiometric hydroxyapatite, tetracalcium phosphate, CaSO_4 , $\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 0.5 \text{ H}_2\text{O}$, $\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2 \text{ H}_2\text{O}$, CaO , $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$, CaCO_3 and mixtures thereof; and

~~an organic~~ a carboxylic acid for accelerating hardening of said composition when said composition is exposed to water at a delivery site, said acid selected from the group consisting of glycolic, citric, tartaric, malonic, malic, and maleic acids and combinations thereof,

said composition being substantially anhydrous.

2. (cancelled)
3. (previously presented) The composition of Claim 1, wherein the gelling agent is selected from the group consisting of hydroxy methyl, cellulose, carboxymethyl cellulose, chitosan, collagen, gum, gelatin, and alginate, and combinations thereof.
4. (cancelled)
5. (cancelled)
6. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 1, wherein the liquid comprises glycerin.

7-25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 1, said composition comprising a bone graft paste having a hardening time of no more than 35 minutes when exposed to an aqueous environment at a delivery site.

27. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 1, said composition comprising a bone graft paste having a hardening time of no more than 20 minutes when exposed to an aqueous environment at a delivery site.

28. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 1, said composition comprising a bone graft paste having a hardening time between about 5 to about 15 minutes when exposed to an aqueous environment at a delivery site.

29. (Currently amended) A composition according to Claim 1, said miscible liquid being selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol, poly(propylene glycol), poly(ethylene glycol) and mixtures thereof.

~~29.30.~~ (Currently amended) A composition according to Claim 1, said miscible liquid being selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol, poly(ethylene glycol) and mixtures thereof.

31. (New) The composition of claim 1 wherein the powder particle to liquid ration of constituents is in the range of about 1.5 to 3.0.

32. (New) The composition of claim 1 wherein the powder particle size is in the range of about 1 μ m to 50 μ m.

33. (New) The composition of claim 1 wherein the powder particle size is in the range of about 1 μ m to 50 μ m, the hardening time upon mixing with an aqueous source is less than about 35 minutes and the solid components comprises at least about 60% of the mass of the composition.

34. (New) The composition of claim 1 wherein the gelling agent is selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl methyl cellulose, carboxy methyl cellulose, chitosan, collagen, gum, gelatin, alginate and combinations thereof and said powder particle size is in the range of about 1 μ m to 50 μ m.

35. (New) A self hardening, non-aqueous composition of matter in combination:

a non-toxic, non-aqueous water-miscible liquid;

a gelling agent;

a powdered calcium compound in the form of powder particles and selected from the group consisting of monocalcium phosphate monohydrate, monocalcium phosphate anhydrous, dicalcium phosphate anhydrous, dicalcium phosphate dehydrate, octacalcium phosphate, α -tricalcium phosphate, β -tricalcium phosphate, amorphous calcium phosphate, calcium deficient hydroxyapatite, non-stoichiometric hydroxyapatite, tetracalcium phosphate, CaSO_4 , $\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 0.5 \text{ H}_2\text{O}$, $\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2 \text{ H}_2\text{O}$, CaO , Ca(OH)_2 , CaCO_3 and mixtures thereof; and

a carboxylic acid for accelerating hardening of said composition when said composition is exposed to water at a delivery site, said acid selected from the group consisting of glycolic, citric, tartaric, malonic, malic, and maleic acids and combinations thereof,

said composition being substantially anhydrous.

36. (New) The composition of claim 1 wherein the powder particle size is in the range of about $1\mu\text{m}$ to $50\mu\text{m}$.

37. (New) The composition of claim 1 wherein the powder particle size is in the range of about $1\mu\text{m}$ to $50\mu\text{m}$, the hardening time upon mixing with an aqueous source is less than about 35 minutes and the solid components comprises at least about 60% of the mass of the composition.